

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

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R 210902Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6704

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2946

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: KIM YONG-SAM DEMANDS ROKG LIFT EM-9

REF: SEOUL 2914 (DTG 2009052Z APR 76)

1. WE HAVE OBTAINED COPY OF NDP PRESIDENT KIM YONG-SAM'S
APRIL 19 STATEMENT (REFTEL) FROM KIM'S OFFICE. STATEMENT
WAS HANDED TO PRESS BY PARTY SPOKESMAN. IN ADDITION TO
COMMEMORATING 1960 STUDENT MOVEMENT KIM'S STATEMENT
CONTAINED FIVE POINT DEMAND CALLING FOR ROKG TO

-- CHANGE ITS COURSE AND MOVE TOWARD RESTORATION DEMOCRACY

-- NORMALIZE DOMESTIC POLITICS BY REPEALING EMERGENCY MEASURE NINE

-- FREE DEMOCRATIC PERSONS ARRESTED UNDER EMERGENCY MEASURES

-- STOP INTELLIGENCE AGENCY STYLE POLITICS WHICH OPPRESS THE
PRESS AND SPLIT OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTY

-- STOP SURVEILLANCE OF CAMPUSES AND GUARANTEE AUTONOMY OF CAMPUSES

2. IMPACT OF KIM'S DEMANDS IS LESSENERD SOMEWHAT BY MODERATE
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WORDING OF STATEMENT (IN KOREAN) AND FACT HE DID NOT READ

DEMANDS PERSONALLY. PRESS HAS NOT REPORTED HIS DEMANDS.

3. KIM HAS MADE THIS RELATIVELY HARD LINE STATEMENT AGAINST BACKGROUND OF INCREASINGLY BITTER PRE-CONVENTION INTRA-PARTY FIGHT FOR LEADERSHIP OF NDP. CONVENTION IS NOW SCHEDULED TO BE HELD BETWEEN MAY 15-25. KIM'S POWER IS BEING CHALLENGED NOT ONLY BY OLD LINE FACTIONAL BOSSES SUCH AS YI CHOL-SUNG AND KO HUNG-MUN WHO ADVOCATE COLLECTIVE LEADERSHIP, BUT ALSO BY HARD LINERS IN PARTY SUCH AS FORMER ASSEMBLYWOMAN KIM OK-SON AND OTHERS WHOSE PUBLIC CHARGES THAT KIM YONG-SAM COLLABORATES WITH GOVERNMENT HAVE DISRUPTED SEVERAL LOCAL CHAPTER ORGANIZATION MEETINGS. AS CONSEQUENCE THESE CHARGES, KIM IS OBVIOUSLY UNDER PRESSURE TO CONTINUE AT LEAST PRO-FORMA CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES.

COMMENT: SO FAR ROKG HAS GIVEN NO INDICATION IF IT WILL ALLOW KIM TO GET AWAY WITH HIS LATEST STATEMENT. HE REMAINS UNDER INDICTMENT FOR SIMILAR REMARKS WHICH HE MADE IN LATE 1975.
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Message Attributes

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